

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application:

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 1-10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A—biomedical~~ An assembled implant designed for implantation ~~into~~ between adjacent vertebrae in the spine of a patient comprising two or more ~~separate~~ threaded sections of cortical bone that are ~~configured such that said two or more separate sections can be joined together in tandem by pins interconnecting said threaded sections, wherein upon said two or more separate sections being joined, an implant is formed comprising~~ to form an elongated body having a first end for initially engaging adjacent vertebrae and ~~a driving and securing device and~~ a second end for initially engaging ~~adjacent vertebrae~~ a driving and securing device,

wherein said elongated body comprises a continuously tapered and threaded surface from about 5 mm to about 25 mm in length;

~~wherein said continuously tapered and threaded surface begins at a first position on or proximate to said first end and extends throughout the length of said elongated body down to a second position on or proximate to said second end.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~biomedical~~ implant of claim 11, wherein said implant is comprised of two threaded sections of cortical, ~~cortico-cancellous, or cancellous bone, or a combination thereof.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~biomedical~~ implant of claim 11, wherein said two or more sections of cortical bone comprise ~~comprising~~ joining holes formed therein such that said two or more sections are joined together by insertion of said pins through said joining holes.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~biomedical~~ implant of claim 13, wherein said pins are ~~comprised of~~ cortical bone.

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ implant of claim ~~15~~ 11, wherein said cortical bone is ~~selected~~ obtained from a bone selected from the group consisting of femur, tibia, fibula, humerus, radius and ulna.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~biomedical~~ implant of claim ~~1~~ 11, comprising a ~~plurality of holes formed therein, optionally connecting to a central~~ channel formed in said ~~biomedical implant~~ elongated body, to aid in delivery of a biologically active substance disposed on or within the implant to surrounding tissue.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~biomedical~~ implant of claim 17, wherein said biologically active substance comprises one or more substances selected from the group consisting of cells, growth factors, antibiotics, nucleic acids, proteins, peptides, antineoplastics, and anti-inflammatory compounds.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~biomedical~~ implant of claim ~~1~~ 11, wherein said ~~biomedical implant is formed substantially from~~ cortical bone is human, allograft ~~cortical~~ bone or xenograft bone.

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~biomedical~~ An assembled implant comprising an elongated body having a first end for initially engaging adjacent vertebrae ~~engaging a driving and securing device~~ and second end for ~~initially engaging adjacent vertebrae~~ engaging a driving and securing device,

~~wherein said elongated body comprises~~ comprising two threaded sections of cortical bone connected in tandem by two pins to form a continuously tapered and threaded surface from about 5 mm to about 25 mm in length ~~and further comprising two or more~~

~~sections of cortical bone, cancellous bone, corticocancellous bone or a combination thereof,~~

wherein said continuously tapered and threaded surface begins at a first position on or proximate to said first end and extends throughout the length of said elongated body down to a second position on or proximate to said second end.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~biomedical~~ implant of claim 20, ~~wherein said biomedical implant comprises~~ comprising a channel formed through said elongated body such that said channel is positioned transverse to the longitudinal axis of said implant, said channel ~~being adapted~~ suitable to ~~have~~ having a biologically active substance disposed therein.

23. (Currently amended) A method for fusing vertebrae comprising, making a space between the vertebrae to be fused, and ~~inserted~~ inserting into said space ~~a biomedical~~ an assembled implant, said ~~biomedical~~ implant comprising two threaded sections of cortical bone connected in tandem by two bone pins to form an elongated body having first end for engaging a driving and securing device and second end for initially engaging adjacent vertebrae,

wherein said elongated body comprises a continuously tapered and threaded surface from about 5 mm to about 25 mm,

wherein said continuously tapered and threaded surface begins at a first position on or proximate to said first end and extends throughout the length of said elongated body down to a second position on or proximate to said second end,

~~wherein said biomedical implant is comprised of cortical, cortico-cancellous, or cancellous bone; and~~

wherein inserting said biomedical implant into said space between the vertebrae ~~provides~~ allows said vertebrae fusion to become fused.

24. (Cancelled).

25. (New) The implant of claim 20, wherein said two pins are two cortical bone pins.
26. (New) The implant of claim 20, wherein said second end for engaging a driving and securing device is slotted.